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FOR POLADS

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SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF SOVIET PRESS: AUGUST 27, 1976

1. HIGHLIGHTS:

--U.S. COVERAGE FEATURES ANOTHER FOLLOW-UP
ON THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION AND SOME WORRY ABOUT
U.S. ARMS SALES TO IRAN.

-- PRAVDA FRONTPAGES TASS RPORT OF AUGUST 26
BREZHNEV-KARAR MEETING IN CRIMEA, LAST OF THIS YEAR'S
CHAIN OF SOVIET-EE BILATERAL SUMMITS. IN ATMOSPHERE OF
"CORDIALITY AND FRIENDSHIP, UNANIMITY AND FULL MUTUAL
UNDERSTANDING ON ALL QUESTIONS DISCUSSED", SUBJECT MATTER
GOT AS FAR AS LEBANON BUT SEEMS TO HAVE CONCENTRATED
ON ECONOMICS: LONG-TERM AGREEMENTS ON UTILIZATION IN
MUTUAL INTEREST OF "MANY TYPES OF RAW MATERIALS AND
OTHER MATERIAL RESOURCES" WERE SINGLED OUT FOR SPECIAL
MENTION.

FRENCH GOVERNMENT CRISIS RECEIVED GREATER
PRESS PLAY TODAY IN ALL MAJOR MEDIA. PRAVDA'S GEORiy
RATIANI FROM PARIS GAVE FULLEST TREATMENT IN
"COMMENTATOR'S COLUMN" RUNNING THROUGH ECONOMIC PROBLEMS
LEADING TO CHIRAC'S RESIGNATION AND GIVING INCREASED
ATTENTION TO FOREIGN POLICY DIFFERENCES WITHIN THE
MAJORITY, NOTING UDR LEADERS' DISSATISFACTION WITH
"ATLANTICIST LINE AND RAPPROACHEMENT WITH NATO".
IZVESTIYA IN CONTRAST BRUSHED BY ECONOMICS WITH HARDLY
A MENTION AND FOCUSED ON FOREIGN POLICY DIFFERENCES.
BY USING FRENCH PRESS AND "OBSERVERS", SOVIETS HAVE
AVOIDED DIRECT CRITICISM OF GISCARD BUT TONE OF ARTICLES
AMOUNTS TO MUTED DISAPPROVAL AND FAVORABLE TREATMENT
OF CHIRAC. BARRE GETS ATTENTION ONLY AS ECONOMIC
TECHNICIAN WHO HOPES TO DEAL WITH MOUNTING ECONOMIC CRISIS.
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--BIG MIDDLE EAST ITEM IS DECLARATION OF SOVIET
COMMITTEE FOR SOLIDARITY WITH ASIAN AND AFRICAN COUNTRIES
IN PRAVDA (SEPTTEL). DECLARATION STRONGLY CRTICIZES
ISRAEL AND "IMPERIALIST FORCES SUPPORTING" HER,
OBLIQUELY SUGGESTS THAT SYRIAN WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON
WOULD BE A GOOD THING AND CALLS FOR INTERNATIONAL
POLITICAL CAMPAIGN IN SUPPORT OF PALESTINIANS AND LEBANESE
PATRIOTS.

--BOTH PRAVDA AND KZ PRINT BEIRUT TASS COVERAGE BY V. KOPYTIN AND A. URAZOV WHICH DESCRIBES BOTH CONTINUED FIGHTING AND STEPS TOWARD HOLDING CESSATION OF ARTILLERY AND MORTAR FIRE IN HEAVILY POPULATED EAST AND WEST PORTIONS OF BEIRUT. OTHER TENTATIVE POLITICAL EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE BROADER CEASE FIRE ARE DESCRIBED WITH SOME PESSIMISM GIVEN THAT, AMONG OTHER THINGS, "SYRIA DOES NOT INTEND TO WITHDRAW ITS TROOPS FROM LEBANON".

--PRAVDA DESCRIBES AUGUST 26 MOSCOW MEETING OF SOLIDARITY WITH PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA. ARTICLE MENTIONS ARMED STRUGGLE UNDER SWAPO LEADERSHIP, A THEME ECHOED IN IZVESTIYA ARTICLE ON NAMIBIA BY A. ROVNOV. ROVNOV IMPLIES ROGERS-SCHAUFELI TRIP TO AFRICA WAS DEDICATED TO SOLUTION OF TASK OF ENSURING A "MODERATE" GOVERNMENT IN NAMIBIA.

--IZVESTIYA'S FRONT PAGE COMMENTARY ON JAPAN IS THE LATEST IN A STREAM OF POSITIVE ASSESSMENTS OF SOVIET-JAPANESE ECONOMIC COOPERATION FOLLOWING THE RECENT BREZHNEV-DOKU MEETING. TODAY'S COMMENTARY, PROBABLY NOT ACCIDENTALLY, APPEARS NEXT TO A MESSAGE TO BREZHNEV FROM TYUMEN OIL AND GAS WORKERS ANNOUNCING THAT THEY ARE FINDING AND PRODUCING ABOVE PLAN TARGETS.

2. U.S.

--PRAVDA CARRIES ANOTHER FOLLOW-UP COMMENTARY ON THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION FROM CORRESPONDENTS G. VASIL'YEV AND E. RUSAKOV IN KANSAS CITY. LIKE PREVIOUS SOVIET COMMENTARIES, THIS ONE CONCENTRATES ON THE CONSERVATIVE ELEMENTS OF THE PARTY PLATFORM, ESPECIALLY ON DEFENSE AND FOREIGN POLICY, BUT IT ALSO QUOTES SEVERAL REPUBLICANS (INCLUDING ALF LONDON) SAYING THAT THEY DID NOT AGREE WITH REAGAN'S VIEWS.

--IZVESTIYA CARRIES LENGTHY DETAILED ARTICLE
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BY A. LEONIDOV TITLED "DANGEROUS COURSE" WHICH IS HIGHLY CRITICAL OF U.S.-IRANIAN MILITARY RELATIONSHIP AND U.S. STRATEGIC GOALS IN PERSIAN GULF. HOWEVER, ARTICLE DOES NOT MENTION SHAH'S "PERSIAN GULF SECURITY" PROPOSAL.

--KZ HAS CRITICAL TASS ARTICLE ON U.S. ARMY'S "SCHOOL OF AMERICA" IN PANAMA. ITEM, TITLED "SCHOOL OF MURDER", IS BASED ON ARTICLE IN ROME "ESPRESSO".
STOESSEL

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